

**BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN**

Application for Approval of the Interconnection Agreement Between
CenturyTel and United States Cellular Corporation 05-TI-327

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

The Commission approves the interconnection Agreement between CenturyTel (Century) and United States Cellular Corporation (USCC), dated April 14, 2000. The Century companies

that are party to the agreement are: CenturyTel of Fairwater-Brandon Alto, Inc., CenturyTel of

Forestville, Inc., CenturyTel of Larsen-Readfield, Inc., CenturyTel of the Midwest-Kendall, Inc.,

CenturyTel of the Midwest-Wisconsin, Inc., CenturyTel of Monroe County, Inc., CenturyTel of

Northern Wisconsin, Inc., CenturyTel of Northwest Wisconsin, Inc., CenturyTel of Southern

Wisconsin, Inc., and CenturyTel of Wisconsin, Inc. The parties requested Commission approval

of this Agreement by letter received April 21, 2000, from Century. Century asserts that it is

authorized by USCC to submit this application on their behalf and Century has certified that a

copy of the Agreement was sent to USCC. Opportunity to comment was given, but no comments

were received. A list of persons interested in this proceeding may be found in Appendix A.

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Agreement, because it was adopted by negotiation, may only be rejected if the Commission finds that the Agreement discriminates

against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the Agreement, or the implementation of such

Agreement or portion thereof is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Date Mailed

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No telecommunications provider has identified any potential discrimination in the Agreement that could harm its ability to compete effectively, or any portion of the Agreement

that is inconsistent with the public interest. Moreover, the Commission finds no evidence in the

Agreement or otherwise that the Agreement discriminates against any specific provider or is

inconsistent with the public interest. As the Agreement promotes competition, consumer choice, and the development of additional telecommunications infrastructure in Wisconsin, approval of the Agreement would be consistent with at least three public interest factors enumerated in Wis. Stat. § 196.03(6). Other statutory factors not considered are either not relevant or outweighed by the factors cited above. In view of the preceding public interest finding and the fact that the parties reached agreement voluntarily, the Commission finds that the Agreement also satisfies Wis. Stat. § 196.04(1) and (2); the Agreement is required by the public interest, does not cause an irreparable injury, and does not create a public utility service detriment. The Commission therefore concludes that, overall, the Agreement satisfies the criteria for approval under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.03(6), 196.04(1) and (2), and 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). The Commission construes the Agreement between Century and USCC as one based solely on the needs and interests of these parties. This Commission order does not constitute a Commission adoption of any substantive term or provision of the Agreement as a policy of the Commission applicable generally to other telecommunications providers or specifically to providers seeking interconnection with Century.

The Commission is issuing this approval order under the Commission's "Interim Procedures for Negotiations, Mediation, Arbitration and Approval of Agreements" in Docket 05-TI-327

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docket 05-TI-140; Wis. Stat. §§ 196.02, 196.03, 196.04, 196.219, 196.26, 196.28, 196.39, 196.395, 196.40, 196.44, and other provisions of Wis. Stat. ch. 196, as may be pertinent hereto;

and provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996),

that the Commission may apply within its discretion and jurisdiction under Wis. Stat. ch. 196.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin _____

For the Commission:

David Albino

Administrator

Telecommunications Division

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Attachment

cc: Records Management/MFC

See Attached Notice of Appeal Rights.Docket 05-TI-327

Notice of Appeal Rights

Section 252(e)(6) of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, provides that any party aggrieved by this determination may bring an action in an appropriate Federal district Court to determine whether the agreement meets the requires of §§ 251 and 252 of that Act.

Notice is hereby given that a person aggrieved by the foregoing decision has the right to file a petition for judicial review as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.53. The petition must be filed within 30 days after the date of mailing of this decision. That date is shown on the first page. If there is no date on the first page, the date of mailing is shown immediately above the signature line. The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin must be named as respondent in the petition for judicial review.

This general notice is for the purpose of ensuring compliance with Wis. Stat. § 227.48(2) and does not constitute a conclusion or admission that any particular party or person is necessarily aggrieved or that any particular decision or order is final or judicially reviewable.

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APPENDIX A

This proceeding is not a contested case under Wis. Stat. ch. 227, therefore there are no parties to be listed or certified under Wis. Stat. § 227.47. However, the persons listed

below participated.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

(Not a party but must be served)

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Madison, WI 53707-7854

Mr. Fran Runkel

CenturyTel

P.O. Box 4800

La Crosse, WI 54602-4800

Mr. James Naumann

United States Cellular Corporation

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